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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: 23 May 1952

TO : Assistant Director, ORR

FROM : Chief, Materials Division, ORR

SUBJECT: Proposed Reorganization of Economic Divisions, ORR.
(Reference: Office Notice R52-22).

1. The role of the Commodities Branch in the Economic Warfare Division is not clear and their responsibilities should be clarified as against D/M's responsibilities.
2. Under the Food and Agriculture Branch, "Climatology" is shown as a separate section. It is a one-man operation at the present time and too small to be labeled a section. It is recommended that "Agro-Climatology" remain a desk in the Regional Section.
3. Although the Food and Agriculture Branch is without the services of a fisheries expert and will be for the 1952 calendar year, the 1952-1953 T/O calls for one. It is therefore suggested that a "Fisheries" desk be included under the Commodity Section.
4. Under the Food and Agriculture Branch, "Fibers" should read "Fibers and Leather". Up to now, this desk has been concerned with the acreage and production of the fiber crops, sheep numbers and wool production, production of synthetic fibers (in cooperation with the Chemicals Branch), capacity and gross output of Soviet Bloc cotton and wool textile plants, and production of leather, including shoes and boots. The distinction between this desk and the "Soft Goods" Section of the Consumer Goods Branch of D/S is not clear. It is more costly to separate the production of fibers and hides from the production of textiles and leather goods. This is comparable to the separation of the production of crude oil and the output of refinery products. It would appear advisable to have a "Consumer Goods" Branch prepare the aggregates than to concern itself with the technical aspects of the production of consumer goods. This Branch should also be the focal point for studies of the Standard of Living, pieces of which are now found in a number of Branches of O/RR.
5. Under the Chemicals Branch, "Specialties" should read "Specialty Chemicals".
6. Also under the Chemicals Branch, "USSR" and "Satellites" are listed as separate sections. It is deemed sufficient to have a "Regional" Section with the "USSR" and "Satellites" as desks.

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7. Under Ferrous Metals and Minerals Branch, it is suggested that "Alloy Materials" read "Alloying Metals"; that "Steel Production" read "Iron and Steel".

8. Under Non-Ferrous Metals and Minerals Branch, it is suggested that "Minor" read "Minor Metals".

9. Under Petroleum Branch, it is suggested that "Production" read "Crude Production"; that "Quality Control" read "Quality Requirements"; and that "Transport and Storage" read "Transportation". The storage aspects will be handled by the Crude Production Section and the Distribution and Consumption Section.

10. Under Special Commodities Branch, the "Chemicals" Section was inadvertently omitted.

11. Under Industrial Division, Ammunition Branch, the title "Special Explosives" may be confusing in the light of the existence of an Explosives Section in the Chemicals Branch of D/M. I assume what is meant is Special Explosive Mechanisms, such as mines, guided missiles, etc.

12. Under Capital Goods Branch, D/I, it was our understanding that your intention was to have petroleum equipment handled by the Petroleum Branch of D/M.

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JJB/ba (23 May 1952)

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